



15 September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all well. We have had a wonderful beginning to the school year. Thank you for your support with our school uniform; students are very well presented and compliant. There is so much in the media at present about uniforms and sanctions. St Paul's policy is that students will be spoken to about any issues and repeated non-compliance will be sanctioned. We do allow parents time to sort out issues where it relates to things like footwear or trousers. We appreciate all the support we do get from our parents with regards to uniform. Just for information at this point, the boys have asked me to consider black shorts in the summer months. They have gone away to research options and I will keep you posted.

Our new Year 7 students have settled in really well and are a delight to have in school. It was lovely to see so many Year 7 parents at the Information Evening last week. The presentation can be found here: https://youtu.be/L9L52_jqQLA. We know it can be tricky getting used to new school systems and I hope most of you are now on line with Satchel, Arbor and Go4Schools. Please drop us an email if you are still struggling - dbyrne@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk or lboyle@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk.

We are pleased how quickly our new Year 12 students have settled. We have 22 external students join us and again if any of those parents need help with logging into our systems, please contact Mrs Bhana fbhana@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk. We do have some spaces in Year 12 if you know a young person who would like to join us. We will be admitting Year 12's up until 30th September.

School Traffic

We hosted a very productive residents and parents meeting on Monday night to discuss the traffic concerns on Spencefield Lane and the immediate area as well as hearing from local councillors and the mayor's office.

Can I ask that parents do not park on the grass verges or the road markings along Spencefield Lane and be considerate towards our local residents.

A number of options are being explored to stop the current parking and congestion in the area.

School Applications – Year 7 2024 and Sixth Form

School applications for Year 7 for 2024 - 2025 has started. We have our Year 7 Open Evening on Wednesday 27th September 5pm – 7pm followed by our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 9th November 4.30pm – 7pm. Please do pass this information on to family and friends. If you want to get ahead with your Year 7 child's application, please ensure you complete the Supplementary Information Form found here - <https://www.aquinas-cmat.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2021/01/Supplementary-Information-Form- St-Thomas-Aquinas-CMAT.pdf> and return it to us with your child's faith verification. If you do not have any faith verification you must still complete the form.

Food & Clothes Bank

Food Bank

Mrs O'Riley and 10S are organising a food bank following Pope Francis' call for us to care for our common home; we have a duty to 'respond to the cry of the poor' (Laudato Si). If you are able to contribute we are looking for the following items:

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|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Tinned Kidney Beans 400g | Tinned Chickpeas 400g | Shampoo/Conditioner |
| Tinned Tomatoes 400g | Tinned Potatoes | Toothpaste |
| 1ltr Uht Milk | 1 Ltr Uht Juice | Cooking Oil |
| Tinned Fruit 400g | Curry Sauce | Pasta |
| Custard | Rice Pudding | Rice |
| Feminine Hygiene Products | Tinned Sponge Puddings | Flour |
| Deodorant Spray/roll on | Sugar | |

Donation Point: RE planning room (Monday to Wednesday each week). Donations will be taken to Food Bank weekly or fortnightly depending on amount donated (Wednesdays) by Mrs O'Riley.

Clothes Bank

Have you (or a member of your family) grown out of an item of clothing that you would like someone else to get use out of?

In the last week of each half term Mrs O'Riley will do a drop off of unwanted clothes to a Clothes Bank - so please store any t-shirts, jumpers, jeans, shorts, skirts or dresses that you no longer wear or no longer fit and bring them in during the last week of half term. Items need to be washed and clean - suitable to be worn by someone else and in a carrier bag. Please make sure you or the member of your family are happy for them to be donated.

Collection will be between 9th and 11th October this half term.

Free School Meals

If you think your child may be eligible for Free School Meals, please apply on line leicester.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals whenever possible, as it's the quickest method.

Pre Loved Uniform

We have a good selection of pre loved school blazers – girls and boys – as well as some PE kit including shorts and Rugby tops. Blazers are priced at £10 and all other items at £5 and payment is by cash only. Please call in at the school office if you are interested in buying some preloved uniform.

Pre Loved Revision Guides

We have a small selection of pre loved revision guides available. These include: Triple Science, Combined Science & History and English. All priced at £2 each. If you are interested please contact the school office to reserve one.

Lockers

Lockers are now available for reservation for Year 7 students. The cost is £20 for 3 years (Years 7-9) and can be paid via ParentPay. Lockers will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Fundraising

As some of you may remember, in 2020 we raised enough money as a community to help build our new school Chapel. Our next project will be to build a new servery in our café enabling us to serve students faster with an additional till point. As well as some non uniform days, we plan to hold a Christmas Market and grand prize draw in December. I will be in touch with more information over the coming weeks.

Community Use Booking

We will shortly be offering the school for community use. Full details will follow but if you are looking for a venue for an event please contact Dan Weston for costs. dweston@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk .

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 19th September – HPV Mop Up Vaccinations Years 10 & 11

Tuesday 19th – Thursday 21st September – Year 7 Think Days

Wednesday 27th September – Year 7 Open Evening – 5pm – 7pm

Friday 29th September - Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thursday 5th October – Year 7 Tutor Meetings 1.30pm – 3.30pm (virtual)

Friday 13th October – School closes for half term

Thursday 9th November – Sixth Form Open Evening

With all best wishes,



Mrs S Conaghan
Principal